

BROOKLYN SHOWS POWER IN ATTACK AND DEFENSE—"THE CRAB," BY C. E. VAN LOAN

IF BROOKLYN CRACKS, PITCHING WEAKNESS WILL BE THE CAUSE

Dodgers Have Probably Best Balanced Club in League, But Manager Robinson Is Ruining His Already Uncertain Twirling Talent

John McGraw, manager of the Giants, declares that the Brooklyn team will blow up before the 1st of September. McGraw does not give any reason except that it would not seem natural to see either the Dodgers or Phillies winning a pennant.

A Western scribe wants to know just why the fans think that Brooklyn has a chance to win the pennant. The only answer to that question is that the best-balanced team in the league would naturally expect to have a chance unless it was crippled by accidents.

The greatest handicap the Brooklyn team has in its manager, Wilbert Robinson. Robinson made a remarkable reputation as a developer of pitchers, and yet, like Charley Doolin, he has proved himself incapable of handling a pitching staff properly.

Poor Pitching Staff Real Weakness of Dodgers

About the only real pitchers the Dodgers have are Jeff Pfeffer and Sherrad Smith. Coombs and Rucker are both clever, crafty twirlers, but neither is strong enough to carry the burden of a pennant.

Brooklyn has Dell and Appleton, two promising recruits, but they are not experienced enough for a gruelling race. Appleton proved this when he fell victim to a hoary ruse by Huggins, who was coaching at third base in a recent game at St. Louis.

Brooklyn Has Probably the Best-balanced Team in League

As a ball team, the Dodgers are just a trifle stronger than any team in the league, and have been for two years. It is easily the best batting team in the Tanager circuit; the fielding, particularly in the infield, is as good as any and better than the average.

Daubert, on first, is generally credited as being the best first sacker in the league. Cutshaw, on second, is a hard and timely hitter and a by far better fielder than the average.

Strong Fielding and Catching Big Asset

Wheat, Stengel and Myers form a strong and well-balanced outfield. A number of outfielders might be considered better on the defense and a few might outrun them, but for all-around efficiency there is hardly a better outfield in the league.

Behind the bat the Dodgers are well fortified, with Miller and McCarty. Neither is a Schalk or a Killefer, but both are better than the average.

One More Twirler Might Settle Race Right Now

All things considered, the Dodgers have an edge, and a fairly large one, on any team in the National League for all-round efficiency. It could stand a little more brainwork, both in the playing and managerial ends, and one star twirler who could hold the team up and stand out above the other members of the staff as do Alexander, Marmax, Faber, Rudolph and Foster.

Poor road work has been the greatest drawback to the play of the Dodgers, but it is best not to count on them falling down again on the road. In the stretch, with two or three teams running neck-and-neck, ball teams that have always been weak on the road sometimes forget where they are playing and continue at a dizzy clip, as the Braves did in 1914.

Phillies Have Set Mark in Taking Season Series From Braves

Winning the season's series from the Braves in 18 games is a feat. By capturing yesterday's contest the Phillies turned the trick. Four games remain to be played. Yesterday's victory was the 12th of the season from the world's champions, while six defeats have been suffered.

Alexander faced the Braves six times this season and has won five games in clean-cut style. His only defeat, at the hands of Tyler, was due to poor support in the field and lack of batting by his teammates.

Rixey Should Soon Be Best Southpaw in National Circuit

Seldom has Eppa Rixey pitched better ball than he did in the final game of the Braves' series yesterday. The Beaneaters were as nearly helpless before his southpaw shoots as it is possible for a team to be, and they had but one real chance to score.

Phillies Have Crushed Spirit of the Braves

The manner in which the Phillies worked the double squeeze brought cheers from the crowd and recalled the greatest days of the Mack machine, when this play was made time and again, even when the opposing team was expecting it.

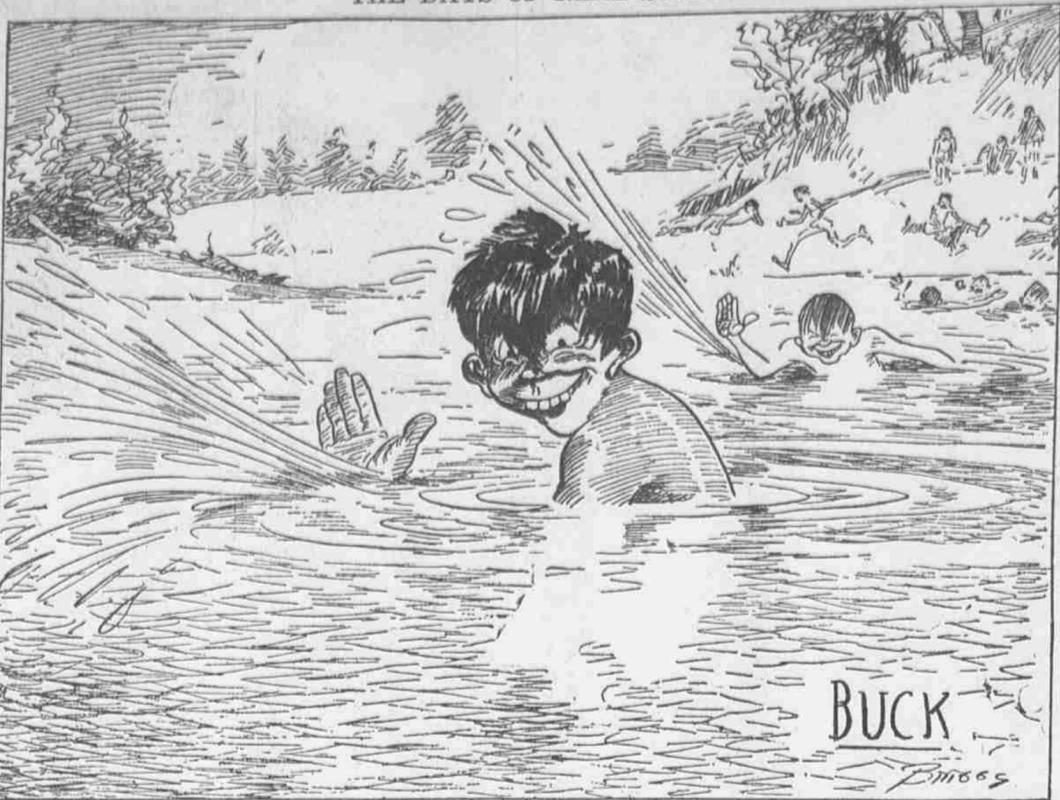
It must be admitted that the majority of the breaks of luck during the series went to the Phillies, but that is all in the game. The breaks generally go with the team that is playing winning ball and forcing them. The Braves blame two of their defeats on these breaks, but they should remember that in team ever had luck running their way as the Bostonians themselves did in 1914.

Rowdiness of Boston Team Serious Reflection on Tanager

There is no explanation or excuse needed. The Braves were beaten and completely outplayed by a team that played better and more up-to-date ball. The actions of the Braves in the ninth inning were a disgrace, and there was absolutely no cause for the needless delay in the game when Rudolph, Egan and Tyler were sent from the field.

The fact that President Tener has allowed the Braves to play the rowdy game throughout the season is to blame for this show of muckierism. Stallings' men have gotten away with so much without being punished, as other players are, that they have no fear or respect for the umpires. It is about time the other clubs step in and find out just why these things are allowed to take place.

If club owners would see to it that the players paid the fines, a lot of these important features would be eliminated. Rudolph, Egan and Tyler were fined by Umpire Klem yesterday, but each coaxed another fine, knowing that President Gaffney more than likely would foot the bill.



BEECHER-M'ANDREWS BATTLE FEATURE GO AT DOUGLAS TONIGHT

Intercity Match Head-liner on Local Boxing Program—O'Toole Likes "Wrist-watch" System of Tolling "Ten."

Willie Beecher, New York's rugged fighter, who has appeared here in bouts with Tommy Langdon, Teddy Maloney, Pat Bradley, Charley Thomas and Sam Robidoux will be opposed to Eddie McAndrews at the Douglas Club tonight.

Tommy O'Toole, retired Port Richmond featherweight and one of the cleverest boxers ever developed in this city, believes, with other boxing celebrities here, that the "wrist-watch" system of counting over a fallen fighter would be successful.

Frank Moran and Jim Coffey have started light training in preparation for their 10-round bout in New York October 19.

Keplington is represented by three leading boxers of different divisions—Joe Borrell, middleweight; Johnny Duffy, welterweight, and Johnny Nelson, lightweight.

When the new staff of the New York Boxing Commission takes its office, October 1, decisions may be rendered for the ensuing year. Promoters, critics and fans are making a great plea for referee decisions.

RIVAL BIKE RIDERS IN 50-MILE RACE

Carman, Wiley, Linert and Bedell to Compete at Point Breeze Thursday

Thursday night at Point Breeze Park motorrome will mark another annual in motorrace history when Carman, the world's champion; Wiley, ex-world's champion of last year; Linert, the Belgium champion; and Bedell, of Long Island, the noted six-day endurance rider, meet in a 50-mile motorrace.

After the race on Thursday night Bedell asked for another chance at Carman over a longer route, and Manager Roden consented, but insisted that Linert, of Belgium, be also entered, as it was the latter's ambition to ride against Carman and Wiley.

Carman stated that he will lower Wiley's record of 1:24.9 for 50 miles Thursday night, and with this thought in mind, and also Wiley's desire to regain the championship, the race will be nothing short of phenomenal.

As an additional incentive, David Neter, a noted wine merchant of this city, and two other motorists, who are enthusiastic, have offered an additional bonus of \$100 each provided the winner covers the distance within one hour. It is, therefore, the consensus of opinion that this race will be without par.

THE CRAB The Beginning of the Tenth Year—The Crab Pegs Low and the Manager Worries a Bit—The Crab Gets a Token—But the Arm Isn't There

By CHARLES E. VAN LOAN The World's Most Famous Writer of Baseball Fiction.

Henry Gilman, third baseman of the Pinkies, is called the Crab by his fellow-players by the baseball writers and by the fans. He is a silent, slow-going person, hitting a little better than the average, fielding well, but not exceptionally, and a sport of the field, married, and so steady that it is generally believed that he's an old man.

"I'll bet he'll be playin' ball when his sons are old enough to be in the soldiers' home. He takes it so easy that he'll last a long time; but if that wing of his ever goes back on him—well, he's got a right nice place out there in Kansas. And he'll be eating canvasback duck when a lot of these 8000-year boys are tryin' to raise the first installment on a postage stamp!"

When Gilman reported at the beginning of his 10th year in the big league, he was just as quiet, and just as bald, and just as retiring as ever. While the youngsters on the team were tearing into their training with a vim which left them racked and sore, the old Crab, wise veteran of many spring camps, took his time.

The season opened with the Crab on third base. The fans, in their joy at the beginning of the baseball year, did not overlook the fact that the Crab was beginning his 10th year with the team. Some of the men at the Stock Exchange, who had watched Gilman for nine years and hoped to watch him for nine years more, presented him with an immense floral horseshoe, inside of which was the figure "10."

The umpire made the presentation speech the first time that the Crab came to the bat. Gilman forgot himself and removed his cap, exposing a shining pate, and thereafter the cheering was not un-mixed with laughter. Gilman was the only man on the team who had never received a floral tribute in his life, and this was probably the reason he struck out on three slow curve balls, and was still blushing as he walked back to the bench.

But he paid a boy a dollar to take the floral horseshoe to his room at the hotel, and the next morning he sent for a photographer and had his picture taken in his Sunday clothes standing beside the good-luck emblem.

The horseshoe remained in Gilman's room until the carnations faded to a dirty yellow, and when the team went on the road a few of the withered flowers, neatly wrapped in tissue paper, were in the top tray of the Crab's traveling trunk, along with the pictures of the wife and the children.

At the end of the first month every man on the team knew that there was something the matter with Gilman's arm. He fielded as clearly as ever, he was hitting around .380, but men who never beat out infield hits on him before were beating them out this season.

"How're the babies, Henry?" asked the manager, one night. The Crab grinned. It would have been worth telegraph tolls had a newspaper man seen this phenomenon.

"Fine, Joe!" said Gilman. "There's another one now." "Nice work!" commented Holmes. "Ranch all right!" "Sure!" said Gilman. "Cleared three thousand last year."

"Huh!" said the manager. "You might have been a little easier on me about that contract, then. When you going to buy an automobile?" "The Crab grinned again.

"Jennie had an electric runabout for two seasons now," he said. And then, as if ashamed of himself, he rose quickly and went indoors.

"Wish I had a carload like him!" sighed the manager. Toward the end of the training season, Holmes, who kept a close watch over his players, went into conference with Carney, his team captain.

"How's the Crab throwing this year?" Holmes asked. "I was going to talk to you about that," said Carney. "Today in that game with the colts, he kept pegging low. You know that's unusual for him. He's been doing it for a week. He's been playing ball ever since George Washington was a boy, and that old wing is goin' to weaken some time. That's a

MACKMEN ON ROAD TO DETROIT, WHERE NEXT SERIES BEGINS

Last Invasion of West for Season in Fine Form Against the Yanks

Just when the fans were about convinced that Rube Bressler belonged to some Class Z league, the big southpaw came through with one of the best games of the season in the American. In the final game against the Highlanders Bressler allowed but one hit and won a pitching duel from Ray Caldwell.

Bressler never pitched a better game than he did yesterday, and New York scribes insist that it was the finest performance of the year on the Polo Grounds. To help things along, Bressler lifted the ball into the left-field seats for the first run of the game.

After the game the Mackmen left for Detroit, where they open their final Western trip of the season. Manager Mack has little hope for a good record on the trip, but expects some of his recruits to show great improvement before the team comes back to Shibe Park.

DIGGINS WINS OVER HANNON

Earns Honors of Well-contested Bout at Broadway A. C. In the final bout at the Broadway Athletic Club last night Willie Hannon and Young Diggins boxed six fast, exciting rounds, which resulted in a well-earned victory for the latter.

The South Philadelphia Boys' Club boxer set a rapid pace in the early part of the contest and the quickness with which he delivered a neat one-two punch to the jaw had Diggins in a quandary for the first couple of rounds.

Diggins was the first to score blood, hooking a short left to Hannon's head, which started the blood from the latter's nose in the first round.

FIVE DAYS' RACING AT BYBERRY FAIR

Philadelphia County Fair, Sept. 1-6 to Be Mecca for Horsemen—Colt Races Attract

The Philadelphia County Fair Association grounds are being put in shape for the fair September 1-6 inclusive. The track is in the best of condition now, and when the horsemen from all parts of the Eastern States vie for honors they will race over a fast course.

Many features will be added to make this a banner year. The proposed Midway will be novel, and the various administration buildings will have on exhibition the products of Pennsylvania farmers.

In the racing line the colt contests are creating considerable interest. On the third day's program a two-year-old and three-year-old trotting race will hold the boards.

James Bell, of this city, has named Director Bligen and a bay colt, by General Wain, and Frank Masland, of Somerton, will bank on Joker D. Laird, a Mount Holly turfman. F. Welsborn, has entered Hattie Woolston, A. B. Coxe, of the Nawsbeck Farms, Paoli, will depend on Peter Allen and Michaelson to carry the honors to his Main Line ranch.

In the three-year-old trot a better lot of horses could not be found. They are all royally bred. This is the Byberry Stakes, and has attracted colts and fillies from as far south as Virginia. Many local breeders have their best colts in this big event.

BRAVES ALL IN, DOWN AND OUT, PLAYER ADMITS

Pennant Hopes Gone and Team Is Resigned to Loss of Title

POOR PITCHING CAUSED Boston Star Thinks Philadelphia Has Best Chance to Win National Pennant

The Boston Braves, baseball champions of the world, apparently are through so far as pennant chances are concerned. This was the impression gathered by 10,000 fans who saw the Phillies win their third straight game from Stallings' team.

To have the Braves admit they have cracked was thought to be impossible. But even before yesterday's defeat one of the most important cogs in the Braves machine told the Evening Ledger a representative that the champions were out of the running.

This player did not care to have his name used, as he said it would "make the club sore, but he admitted that he knew when the team hit Chicago on its last Western trip that it was on its last legs and could not hope to stand the pace.

Stallings still believes he will win, and insists that every member of the team shall have the same spirit, but the main cause of the downfall of the Braves machine, declares that the players themselves really don't think they have a chance.

"We are going to fight to the finish, but you can't win in a race like this without pitchers. Rudolph is the only man we have who is capable of going through a battle like this has been, and Dick has been up against it," said the star.

"Opposing teams have saved their best pitcher to go up against Rudolph each series, as they realized that we did not have a pitcher as good as Tyler was not so good as he was a year ago. As a result, Rudolph, our only hope, has lost games after game that would have been an easy victory against ordinary pitching.

Why this fellow Alexander has beaten Rudolph about five times this season, and you know that hurts the confidence and puts a team on the defensive right at the start of a series when your star gets beaten. That is why the Phillies had a hard time in the series with the Phillies.

"I still think we are the best team in the league and that we will come back strong next season. The poor condition of Evers right from the start and James' failure to round into form took out of a bad start, when we should have gone out in front and destroyed the confidence of the other contenders.

"Stallings says we will win yet, but I don't think so, and I don't think any of the boys do, but don't tip the 'Chick' off that I said this, because he will be back on me forever.

"You have a better ball team here, Philly than you think. It is a team that is stronger than it looks. It has played better ball against us than any team in the league, and while the ball looked better in our last series in Chicago, the Philly pitching staff is stronger for the grind. I have not seen the dodgers for some time, but I don't think they are in the league, and the Phillies are a great chance. In fact, I like their chance better than any other team in the league.

But just remember the Braves will be back on the job next season." "The scribes' next traveling with the Braves seem to feel the same way about the world's champions' chances. Nick Flately, of the Boston Post, said he had been back on the job with the Phillies for two weeks ago and that he was sure the players all feel the same way about it. Jack McGrath, of the American, agrees with Flately, and both of the Beattown scribes believe that the Phillies are sure to win out.

"See you in Boston for the world's series between the Phillies and the Red Sox, was the farewell greeting of the Boston scribes, and Secretary Nickerson also chimed in on this suggestion. "We can't beat you any more in this league, but we will still have a world's champion when the Red Sox get through with Moran's arm."

Perhaps they might be right about that but one will have a hard time convincing any of the National Leaguers that any team in the world can beat the Phillies with Alexander the Great in his present form, which he is likely to retain till the finish.

With the feeling expressed by the Braves' star and the scribes prevalent in the Boston camp, it would be nothing short of a miracle for Stallings to win out now, and the local fans and the Philly team may now turn their attention to Brooklyn and root for the slump that most people believe is coming to the Robins.

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EVENING LEDGER MOVIES—IF THAT IS CROOKED BUSINESS, LOUIE, EPPA RIXEY LOOKS LIKE A PRETZEL

